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HANDBOOK

FOR

JEWISH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

1924

THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF THE
UNITED SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK CITY



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*United Synagogue of America,
"Women's League"*

**Handbook
for
Jewish Women's Organizations**

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The Women's League of the United Synagogue
New York City
1924**

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FOREWORD

Through the many requests that reach us for directions in the organization and conduct of a Sisterhood or Women's Auxiliary, the Women's League of the United Synagogue has been made conscious of an apparently wide-spread need for such information. This is especially the case in smaller communities which do not have the guidance of a Rabbi or religious leader. The booklet, "Handbook for Jewish Women's Organizations," has been compiled to fill this want. It contains specific information for the organization of new groups, touching on the time of meetings, dues, executive council, and other general matters common to all Sisterhoods. There are suggestions on the various aspects of women's activity, communal, social, and educational with special stress on those activities which make for and strengthen the Jewish consciousness. Ten sample programs are included to provide the instructive part of the meeting and to serve as a suggestive basis for the formation of other programs. The suggestions for raising money, cooperation with the Synagogue and Hebrew School may open new fields of activity. It is earnestly hoped that this booklet will facilitate the organization of new groups and prove helpful to those already in full swing.

DEBORAH M. MELAMED,
Chairman, Education Committee.

ORGANIZATION

Membership

Membership in the organization should be open to all who are in sympathy with the ideals and purposes for which the organization is founded.

Officers and Executive Board

Each Society usually has a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, annually elected by the membership. These officers, together with a few other members elected by the Society, should constitute the Executive Board, the number of additional members to be determined by the size of the Society. The Executive Board should meet once a month to draw plans for activities to be submitted to the members at the regular meeting.

Representation in Congregation

The Society should be represented on the Board of Trustees of the Congregation or on its School Committee, by two or three of its members.

Dues

Dues should be paid by the members of the organization, the amount to be decided at a general meeting. \$3.00 per annum is the usual rate.

Time of Meeting

Meetings may be held twice a month in the afternoon, one meeting to be devoted to the conduct of

business and the other to an educational program, or once a month in the afternoon or evening, the first hour to be devoted to business and the second hour to the program.

GENERAL CONDUCT OF MEETING

Prayer

All meetings should open with a prayer or Bible reading by a member appointed for the year or designated at the previous meeting. A model prayer and list of Bible readings appropriate for various occasions are included in this booklet, on pages 12 and 13.

(*Note.*—In addition to the Bible reading and Prayer, each meeting may be opened by the reading of a selection appropriate to the occasion from Dr. J. H. Hertz's excellent compilation "A Book of Jewish Thoughts.")

Program

Programs for special occasions developed in detail will be found on pages 14 to 29. These programs are intended as suggestive outlines from which others may be modelled, as the occasion requires.

Refreshments

Each meeting may be followed by light refreshments, provided by the members in rotation, or from the funds of the organization.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Educational and Religious

1. Study groups, open to all, should be organized under the Rabbi's direction, in the following subjects:

Current Jewish Problems and Events

Hebrew

Bible

Jewish History

Jewish Prayer Book and Synagogue Service

Ceremonies and Their Interpretations

Home Duties of Jewish Women

Choral Circle for Jewish Melodies.

2. The Society should aim to establish a library, with books of reference, including the Jewish Encyclopedia, Graetz's History, Jewish Publication Society Books, Stories of Jewish Life, Jewish magazines and papers.

3. It is recommended that a member be appointed to bring in at each meeting a review of new books or pamphlets suitable for one's own library or the library of the Synagogue with the price and place at which they may be purchased.

4. The Society should have a Question Box, in which the members deposit unsigned, any perplexing questions pertaining to Jewish life. The box should be opened before each meeting by the Rabbi or religious leader who will discriminate and formulate replies to be read at the meetings following.

5. An address by some prominent speaker on a topic of Jewish or general interest should form the feature of each meeting. A variety of topics are suggested in the programmes following.

6. The Women's League has a Speaker's Bureau which, when called upon, will be glad to furnish speakers for meetings.

Social

The following Social Activities are suggested:

1. Annual Luncheon. The guests might be an out-of-town speaker, women in nearby communities or representatives of local organizations. A short Grace should precede and follow the meal.

2. Social gatherings celebrating the Festivals, especially a Purim Ball.

3. A Theatre Party or moving picture benefit.

4. Amateur Dramatic performance.

5. An Outing or Garden party.

6. Sukkah Hospitality might be extended on different days or evenings to children of the School, Orphan Asylum and other public institutions, Young People's League, Young Judea, Council of Jewish Women, out-of-town students at local colleges, etc.

7. Public Seder arranged by the Society for the second night of Passover.

8. A Congregational Dinner in connection with the Annual Meeting, the Society to provide paper caps for the men.

9. Women's League Day. A day set aside when the Presidents of the Societies affiliated with the Women's League in the same section of the country should meet for conference and comparison of activities.

Communal and Civic

It is urged that the Society lend its support to all movements that tend to secure the observance of the Sabbath, the Holidays, and the Dietary Laws, both privately and at the public functions of Jewish communal and philanthropic institutions. It may also undertake the following activities:

1. Establish vacation schools for religious training at summer resorts.
2. Make provision for Jewish religious instruction for children in Settlement Houses and Reformatories.
3. Make provision for the observance of the Holidays in penal institutions.
4. Make provision for entertaining and giving good cheer to inmates of Jewish hospitals, Homes for the Aged, Orphan Asylums.
5. Assist in Community "Drives."
6. Establish Sewing Circles for Palestine and local institutions.
7. Adopt War Orphans.
8. Establish Clubs for boys and girls, as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Young Judeans, League of Jewish Youth, etc.

SUGGESTIONS FOR LECTURES, PAPERS, DISCUSSIONS AND READINGS

Not Included in the Specific Programs

1. Current Jewish Events.
2. Jewish Women in Public Life—Professional, Political, Industrial.
3. Woman's Part in the Prevention of Future Wars.
4. A series on:
 - The Jewish National Organizations—Their Purpose and Work.
 - Biographies—Jewish Men and Women.
5. The Position of Woman in the Bible.
6. The Study of Child Nature.
7. How Conservative Judaism Can Best Adapt Itself to American Conditions.
8. The Study of Hebrew.
9. The Need for Developing Higher Jewish Learning.
10. Various Systems of Jewish Education.
11. The Home and the Jewish School.
12. The Drama and the American Jew (the Stage).
13. The Jew in American Literature.
14. The Jew and the American Revolution.
15. The Jewish College Student and Judaism.
16. Palestine, Our Privilege and Our Responsibility.
17. Institutional *vs.* Home Care of Children.
18. Cooperation with the Jewish Farming Communities

COOPERATION WITH THE CONGREGATION

The Services

1. Cooperation with the Congregation should constitute one of the most important duties of the organization. All women should be urged to attend the religious services at the Synagogue regularly, bringing their children, and joining in the singing and responses.

2. It would add much to the interest and ease in following a service, if all prayer books used were uniform, especially holy day ones.

3. The Society should cooperate with a committee of ushers in securing perfect decorum at the services.

4. The organization should arrange to decorate the altar of the Synagogue Friday nights and Sabbath with a vase or basket of fresh flowers.

5. The Society should assume the responsibility of providing the vestments needed in the Synagogue and keeping them in good order.

Suggestions for Raising Funds

6. Sale after regular meetings, of fancy articles, also mezuzas, talesim, kiddush covers, Friday Night Stories, and other publications of the Women's League.

7. Sale of refreshments. (A small fee charged for the refreshments served at the end of the meeting.)

8. Sunshine Fund (Drop a coin in a box every sunny day).

9. Happy Day Fund (members make a contribution on birthday, wedding anniversary, etc.).
10. Cake Sale.
11. Package Party.
12. Theatre Party.
13. Dance—Purim Masquerade.
14. Rummage Sale.
15. Garden Party or Outing.
16. Strawberry Festival.
17. Plays and Minstrel Shows.
18. Stereopticon and Moving Pictures.
19. Concerts.
20. Reading Circles: paid professional reader. Course by subscription.

Gifts to Synagogue

21. The following are appropriate gifts to the Synagogue:

Pulpit Bible
Bulletin Board
Memorial Tablet
Vestments
Prayer Books and Bibles
Silk Talesim
Supplies for Meeting Room
Memorial Banners, American and Zionist
Flags.

COOPERATION WITH THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

1. Parties for the children should be given at Hanukkah, Purim and Simhat Torah, the Society providing flags, candy and goodies.

2. The Society might provide prizes at the school's closing exercises for scholarship and Synagogue attendance.

3. The members of the Society who have children in the School should organize a Mothers' Club to discuss ways and means of cooperating with the principal in improving the School.

4. Mothers should supervise their children's homework and have them recite daily, selected prayers in Hebrew and English.

5. The School Committee of the Society should see that the working conditions in the school, its light, heat, ventilation, etc., are acceptable.

6. Every effort should be made to arrange special services for the children, on the Holy days. This will add to the comfort of the children, make for order in the Synagogue, and assure parents that children are observing the day in an intelligible, if simplified manner.

SELECTED BIBLE READINGS

September—Opening Meeting: Leviticus 23, 23-25; 30-43
29, 1

October—Rosh Ha-Shanah:	Leviticus 23, 27-32
Yom Kippur:	Jonah, Ch. 3 and 4
Sukkot:	Leviticus 23, 39-44
	Genesis 1-2, 3

November—Thanksgiving:	Psalms 126
	Deuteronomy, Chap. 8, 6-14

December—Hanukkah:	Maccabees I (Apocrypha) Chapt. 2, v. 17-22; 1, v. 52-60 Psalm 124
January—Palestine Program:	Isaiah 62, 1-5; 6-9
February—Sabbath Program:	Ex. 31, 16-17
March—Purim:	Book of Esther 4, 13-17; 9, 20-32
April—Pesah:	Exodus 12, 14-21 (Institu- 15, 1-11 tion of 13, 3-11 the Pass- over. Song of Moses.)
May—Shabuot:	Book of Ruth, Ch. I, v. 8-17
June—Closing Meeting:	Isaiah 49, 14-21

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty Father,

We are deeply grateful that Thou hast permitted us to assemble here once again in health of body and in peace of mind. We thank Thee for all Thy blessings which crown our days. Help us to become more worthy of them that we may attain to finer and nobler Jewish womanhood.

We have gathered here to carry onward the work which we have undertaken in the cause of our beloved Synagogue and the community. Grant strength, wisdom and patience to the officers and to the members of this body that we may work together in unity and friendliness. Establish Thou the work of our hands. May we grow from strength to strength, and rejoicing in our progress, be inspired to greater effort—Amen.

SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER—OPENING MEETING

- I. Bible Reading—Psalm 127.
- II. President's welcome to members, including an outline of the work for the year.
 - A. Discussion of President's report.
- III. Appointing of Committees:
 - A. Education (to plan the program part of the meeting).
 - B. Hebrew School (to cooperate with the Rabbi in ways he may specify).
 - C. Membership (to secure new members for the organization).
 - D. Entertainment (to run social affairs, dances, theatre parties, dinners, etc.).
 - E. Hospitality (to welcome new members and to promote sociability).
 - F. Social Service (to assume charge of work for inmates of institutions, and cooperate in civic movements, etc.).
- IV. Appointing of Bible reader for the year.
- V. Appointing of current Jewish events reporter for the year.
- VI. Addresses:
 - A. The Auxiliary and Its Relation to the Synagogue.
 - B. The Auxiliary and Its Relation to the Hebrew School.
 - C. The Functions of an Auxiliary.
 - D. The Auxiliary and the Women's League.
- VII. Refreshments.

OCTOBER—THE HIGH HOLYDAYS

(Rosh Ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur)

- I. Bible Reading—Leviticus 23; 23–25 (Rosh Ha-Shanah) 29; 1.
Leviticus 23; 27–32 (Yom Kippur).
- II. Business.
Unless there is some one else responsible for it, the Society should see that the white hangings and covers for the Synagogue Ark and reading desk are in good order.
- III. Topics for Discussion, Reading or Address:
 - A. The Various Names for Rosh Ha-Shanah and Their Meaning.
 - B. The Shofar.
 - C. Home Ceremonies and Their Symbolism.
 - D. The Conception of the Fast as an Atonement.
 - E. Judaism and Asceticism.
 - F. The Book of Jonah, Its Story and Lesson.
 - G. The High Holy Days Compared with the Festivals.
- IV. Refreshments.

References

The Jewish Encyclopedia under New Year, Rosh Ha-Shanah, Shofar, Mahzor, the Day of Atonement, Kol Nidre.

Greenstone—The Jewish Religion.

Abrahams—Festival Studies, Chapter 5, 8, 20, 14.

Dembitz—Jewish Services in Synagogue and Home, Chapt. 6, 11, 12.

SUKKOT

- I. Bible Reading—Leviticus 23; v. 39-43.
- II. Business:
 - A. Discussion on decorating the Sukkah and providing the refreshments for Kiddush and Sukkah gatherings.
 - B. Provision for entertaining in the Sukkah on different days the children of the Hebrew School and their teachers, the ladies of the Society to act as hostesses.
 - C. Provision for a Sukkot Social and Dance for the Young Folks' Society of the Congregation, and college students from out-of-town.
 - D. Provision for entertaining in the Sukkah the children of an orphan home in the neighborhood, or inmates of other institutions.
- III. Short Informal Talk:
 - A. The Festival of Sukkot: Its Religious and Aesthetic Aspects.
 - B. The Lulav and Its Symbolism.
 - C. The Symbolism of the Sukkah.
 - D. The Book of Ecclesiastes.
 - E. Love of Nature as Expressed in Jewish Festivals and Ceremonials.
 - F. Simhat Torah and Its Significance.
- IV. Refreshments.

Notes

1. Every effort should be made to make the Sukkah as attractive as possible, and to entertain as many as it can accommodate.

2. Arrange for special children's services in the Sukkah, with refreshments.

3. Sukkot greetings in tangible form should be taken to the hospitals, orphan homes or to any other institution in which the Society may be interested.

4. Every effort should be made at home and at the Synagogue to make Simhat Torah a joyous closing of the Sukkot season for the children. Arrange a Simhat Torah party for them, appointing special women to attend to all details.

References

The Jewish Encyclopedia.

Greenstone—The Jewish Religion.

Dembitz—Jewish Services in Synagogue and Home—
Chapt. 6.

Abrahams—Festival Studies.

NOVEMBER—THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

I. Bible Reading—Psalm 136, from 1–10.

II. Business:

A. Discussion of advisability of organizing community Thanksgiving Services to be held under the joint auspices of the various religious denominations.

III. Instrumental or Vocal Music.

IV. Reading of the Proclamation issued annually by the President of the United States.

V. Music—Instrumental or Vocal Selections.

VI. Short Talk:

- A. Story of the First Thanksgiving.
- B. Our Duty as American Jews to Participate in National Celebrations.
- C. The Jewish Contribution to Early American Institutions—(Oscar Straus).
- D. Participation of Jews in the Early Discoveries and Settlement.
- E. Was Christopher Columbus a Jew?

VII. Musical Number and Singing of "The Star Spangled Banner," "My Country 'Tis of Thee," etc.

VIII. Refreshments—(Pumpkin Pie, Tea, etc.).

Notes

1. The story of the first Thanksgiving will be found in any Encyclopedia or school history of the United States.

2. Decorate the meeting place abundantly with flags, bunting, etc.

3. A few minutes of the program may be devoted to the children of the various members who might reproduce part of their public school Thanksgiving entertainment.

References

Straus—Origin of the Republican Form of Government in the United States.

Kayserling—Christopher Columbus.

Wiernik—History of the Jews in America.

Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society.

Levinger—The New Land.

DECEMBER—HANUKKAH

- I. Bible Reading—Psalm 124; Apocrypha, I; Mac-
cabees, Chapt. I, 52-60.
- II. Business.
- III. Program for the Afternoon.
 - A. Repetition of the Sunday School Hanukkah
entertainment or selected numbers.
 - B. Short Talk on:
 1. The Story of Hanukkah: a brief out-
line of the events that led to the
celebration.
 2. What Hanukkah should mean to the
Jewish people today:
 - a. A rededication of Israel to the
upbuilding of Jewish life
and the establishment of
Jewish ideals.
 - b. A rededication of the people
to the upbuilding of their
ancestral home, Palestine.
- IV. Musical Numbers.
- V. Kindling of the Hanukkah Lights. This privilege
may be accorded the Rabbi, a member of
the Society or a child of the school.
- VI. Singing of the Mo'oz Tzur in Hebrew or in English
and also the Hatikvoh.
- VII. Refreshments.

Notes

1. Decorate the meeting room with American and
Zionist flags.

2. Make the children proud of their holiday and happy in their participation. Make the week one of home celebrations. Encourage the children to light their own individual menorahs, which may be secured through our office at a nominal price.

3. Copies of the Hanukkah song in Hebrew and English with transliteration can be obtained from our office.

4. Cards containing the Hanukkah blessings in Hebrew and in English with two stanzas of the Mo'oz Tzur may be secured at our office.

5. Encourage especially the exchange of gifts at this season. Hanukkah parties by the children and for the children are very much in order.

JANUARY—PALESTINE PROGRAM

- I. Bible Reading—Psalm 126.
- II. Business Meeting.
- III. Introduction of Speaker or Reader and Subject.
State what aspect of Palestinian life the program will cover.
 - A. The Jewish Arbor Day—Chamisho Osor B'Shevat.
 - a. Origin of the Day.
 - b. Observance in the Past.
 - c. Significance at Present.
 - B. Woman's Work in Palestine. The Hadasah Movement: Its Origin, Growth, Work, Needs.

- C. Are Jews Capable of Self-Government?
- D. The Prophetic Ideal of the Jewish Homeland.
- E. The Life of Herzl.
- F. The Colonization of Palestine.
- G. The Bezalel School—New Art in Palestine.
- H. The Revival of Hebrew as the Spoken Language in Palestine.
- I. Zionism and Judaism.
- J. Palestine and the World War.
- K. Recent Jewish Progress in Palestine.
- L. The Jewish Love of Nature as Shown in the Bible and Festivals.

IV. Discussion. This gives an opportunity to ask questions and clear up points not understood.

V. Singing of the Hatikvoh.

Copies of the Hatikvoh, with music, English, Hebrew and transliteration can be secured at our office.

Notes

1. Try to secure a Zionist flag with which to drape table or to hang on the wall.

2. Any blue and white decorations in the meeting room would be appropriate.

3. The following references will be found helpful in the preparation of an address or a reading. They may be secured from the Zionist Organization:

Past and Present—I. Friedlaender.

Economic Possibilities in Palestine—Nellie Strauss.

The Jewish Colonization in Palestine—Tolkowsky.

Recent Jewish Progress in Palestine—Henrietta Szold.
The Jewish National Fund.
The Herzl Forest.

4. There is a large amount of literature on Palestine in all its aspects, which the Women's League will be glad to send free or at a nominal cost, upon request.

5. Each Society should be encouraged to buy some trees in the Herzl Forest, which will bear its name or the name of any person or cause it desires to honor. It is a happy custom to send money for the planting of a tree in the Herzl Forest on the occasion of any joyous event.

References

The Jewish Encyclopedia—Look under any topic that you wish to discuss.

The Herzl Forest; The Tree Fund.

Jewish Colonization in Palestine—J. Ettinger.

Cooperative Colonization in Palestine—Oppenheimer.

Land Tenure in Palestine—Oppenheim.

FEBRUARY—SABBATH OBSERVANCE

- I. Bible Reading—Genesis 2, 1-3.
- II. Business.
- III. Short Talk or Paper on one of the following:
 - A. The Importance of the Sabbath for the Maintenance of Jewish Life Today.
 - B. The Jewish Manner of Observing the Sabbath.
 - C. The Sabbath in Jewish History and Literature.



- D. Economic Conditions and Sabbath Observance.
- E. Societies for Sabbath Observance: Their Aim and Work.
- F. The Jewish Woman and the Sabbath: Synagogue Attendance.
- IV. Formulation of some resolution not to plan or participate in any activity, which violates the Sabbath.
- V. Discussion and acceptance of such resolution by Society as a whole and individually.
- VI. Musical Numbers and Refreshments.

References

Jewish Encyclopedia, under Sabbath.
 Hertz—A Book of Jewish Thoughts.
 Raskin—Poems.
 Greenstone—The Jewish Religion.
 Joseph—Judaism as Creed and Life.
 Berkowitz—Sabbath Sentiment.

MARCH—PURIM

- I. Bible Reading—Esther, Chapt. 9; 20–32.
- II. Business.
 - 1. Unless some one else is definitely in charge of the matter, the Society should assume the responsibility of providing small copies of the Megillah in Hebrew and English so that everyone that comes to the Synagogue may be supplied.
 - 2. Provide for some Purim gift, as candy, etc., for the Sunday or Hebrew School,

3. Arrange a Purim Reception for students at local colleges, etc., in the hall of the Synagogue.
 4. Discuss the advisability of organizing and supervising a Purim Masquerade for the children, providing games, refreshments and prizes.
- III. Reading of selected extracts from "Esther" to give account of Purim story:
- A. Ch. I, v. 1-22; Ch. II, v. 1-11, 16-23; Ch. III, v. 1-13; Ch. IV, v. 1-17; Ch. V, v. 1-8; Ch. VI, v. 1-12; Ch. VII, v. 1-7; Ch. VIII, v. 3-8; 11, 15-27; Ch. IX, v. 20-32; Ch. X, v. 1-3.
 - B. Short Talk on Purim Customs: Fast of Esther, Masquerade, Megillah, Shalah Monot, Synagogue Collections, Shushan Purim, etc.
 - C. The Woman as a Factor in Jewish Life Today.
 - D. The Position of Woman in the Bible.
 - E. Special Purims in Jewish History, observed in certain communities on other days of the year.
- IV. Part of the entertainment the Hebrew School children are preparing for the Purim celebration might be produced.
- V. Singing of Purim songs, etc., and Refreshments.

Notes

1. It is desirable that perfect silence be maintained during the reading of the Megillah.

2. If it is the custom of the Synagogue to allow collections for the poor on Megillah evening, provide small baskets or other attractive receptacles.

3. The regular meeting may be dispensed with and a Purim masquerade, a Purim reception, a Purim theatre party, a dance, or other large social function take its place.

References

Jewish Life in the Middle Ages—Israel Abrahams.

Jews in Many Lands—Adler.

Services in Synagogue and Home—Dembitz.

Jewish Encyclopedia.

The Jewish Woman—Nahida Remy.

Parody in Jewish Literature—Israel Davidson.

APRIL—PESAH

I. Bible Reading—Exodus, Chapt. 13, v. 3–11.

II. Business:

A. Arrangement for the accommodation of strangers, college students and others at private homes for the Seder nights.

B. Arrangement for supplying the local institutions with food, Mazoth, Passover gifts, etc., for the Holiday.

III. Informal talk or address on one of the following:

A. Seder Ceremonies and their Significance.

B. The Haggadah: Its Songs, Contents and Purpose.

C. The Children and the Seder.

D. Passover Laws and Regulations.

E. The Song of Songs: Its Meaning.

F. Passover Customs and Their Meaning:
Searching for Leaven, Cup of Elijah,
Interpretation of the Seder Song "Had
Gadya," Counting of the Omer.

IV. Refreshments.

Notes

1. Review the Passover melodies at a congregational or auxiliary meeting. Learn some of the English translations.

2. No Seder Table should be without its guest.

3. There should be a Haggadah, with English translation for every member of the Seder Party.

4. The children should take part in the reading of the Haggadah.

5. It is wise to present a generous gift for a fine recitation of the four questions or the "stealing" of the Afikomen.

6. At this meeting, it is advisable to have a demonstration table, perfectly set for Seder, so that it may be seen by all who may have any doubts as to the proper procedure.

7. Children should be encouraged to practice playing and singing the Passover melodies.

References

Abrahams—Festival Studies, Chapt. 1, 7, 8, 15, 23.

Jewish Encyclopedia—Passover, Seder, Haggadah.

Greenstone—The Jewish Religion.

Dembitz—Jewish Services in Synagogue and Home,
Chapt. 5.

Jewish Life in Middle Ages—Index under Passover.
Wm. Rosenau—Jewish Ceremonial Institutions.
Isaacs—Ceremonies and Customs of Jews.
Joseph, Morris—Judaism as Creed and Life, Book II,
Ceremonial Customs.

MAY—SHABUOTH

- I. Bible Reading—Book of Ruth, Chapt. I, v. 8-17.
- II. Business:
 - A. Appointment of Committee for decorating the Synagogue with palms and flowers for the Festival.
 - B. Appointment of Committee to assist in preparations for confirmation or graduation by coaching, organization of ushers, providing flowers and ribbons, etc.
 - C. Organization of Committee to Plan Reception for Graduates and Confirmants.
 - D. Instruction to secretary to send invitations for services and graduation exercises to students in local colleges.
(Upon request, the Education Committee of the Women's League will send a detailed program for those congregations where an elaborate graduation takes the place of regular confirmation.)
- III. Address, Short Paper, Informal Talk by one of the members or invited speakers:
 - A. The Five Scrolls—with special attention to the Book of Ruth, its story, significance.
 - B. The Attitude of Judaism Toward Making Converts by Missionary Work.

C. The Three Harvest Festivals and Their Historical Aspects.

D. The Ten Commandments as the Basis of Moral Laws.

IV. Musical Numbers and Refreshments.

Notes

Plays, tableaux and all material necessary for the school celebrations can be secured by applying to the office of the Women's League.

References

The Jewish Encyclopedia under Shabuot, the Scrolls, Ruth, Penecost.

Greenstone—The Jewish Religion.

Abrahams—Festival Studies, page 84.

Hochman—Temple Festivities.

JUNE—CLOSING MEETING

I. Bible Reading—Isaiah 49; 14-21.

II. President's Report:

A. Summary of year's work:

1. Relations with Hebrew and Sunday Schools.
2. Educational Activities.
3. Social Activities.
4. Local Philanthropy.
5. Religious Work with the Community.
6. Miscellaneous.

III. Expression of appreciation to officers who have carried on the year's work.

IV. Musical Selections.

V. Short Talk on:

A. How to Continue the Children's Religious Training at Summer Resorts.

B. Dangers of Religious Indifference During Summer.

VI. Music and Refreshments.

MODEL CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name and Object

Section 1. This Organization shall be known as.....

Section 2. The object of this Organization shall be to strengthen Traditional Judaism:

- a. By furthering the spiritual, material and social interests of Congregation.....
- b. By advancing Jewish education among its members.
- c. By strengthening the Jewish institutions of the home.
- d. By generally strengthening the religious life of the local Jewish community.

ARTICLE II

Affiliation

Section 1. This Organization shall be affiliated with the Women's League of the United Synagogue of America.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Membership in this Organization shall be open to such women as are in agreement with the above-stated object.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of all the members shall be held once a month.

Section 2. Meetings of the Executive Committee and Standing Committees shall take place once a month.

Section 3. The Annual Meeting for election of officers, presenting yearly reports and other business, shall be held on.....

ARTICLE V

Dues

Section 1. Every member shall pay minimum annual dues of
.....

ARTICLE VI

Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Organization shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, elected at the annual meeting, to serve for one year and to perform all the duties pertaining to their respective offices. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed at the regular meeting, which shall report at the meeting previous to the annual meeting.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers and additional members, to be elected by the Organization at the annual meeting. The Executive Committee shall administer the affairs of this Organization between meetings of the society. The president of the Organization shall act as chairman of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Three members of the Society, one of which shall be the President, shall be elected to represent the Society on the Board of the Congregation.

ARTICLE VII

Committees

Section 1. The President shall be authorized to appoint the following standing committees:

a. **Committee on Education.**

This Committee shall arrange the educational programs for the Society's meetings, and for the study circles.

b. **Committee on Cooperation with the Religious School.**

This Committee shall interest itself in the work of the School, help to increase the attendance, and cooperate in arranging for Festival celebrations for the children.

c. Committee on Religious Observance.

This Committee shall provide prayer books and Bibles in the Synagogue, encourage Sabbath Observance and attendance at Services. It shall also interest itself in strengthening religious observance in the home and together with the Committee on Cooperation, use its influence in upholding the religious life in Jewish, philanthropic, and educational institutions.

d. Committee on Social Activities.

This Committee shall arrange all social functions for the Society, especially on the Festivals.

e. Committee on Membership.

This Committee shall make every effort to interest Jewish women in the Society and secure their affiliation with it.

f. Committee on Social Service.

This Committee shall have charge of the philanthropic activities of the Society.

g. Committee on Cooperation.

This Committee shall investigate all requests for cooperation on the part of non-congregational institutions. It shall report on the same to the Executive Board of the Organization, and shall be the medium through which the Organization may cooperate with those institutions whose applications have been favorably voted on by the Board.

h. House Committee.

This Committee shall attend to the purchase of supplies and furnishings and to the general care of the building.

Section 2. The President may, from time to time, appoint such additional committees as may be deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII

Quorum

Section 1. A quorum shall consist of members at any meeting of the Organization.

Section 2. members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the meetings of that Committee.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present. Such proposed amendment must be presented at the previous meeting of the Society or Executive Committee, due notice thereof being given to the members in writing.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Sabbath Blessing Cards—containing the blessing to be said when lighting the Sabbath Lights.

Hanukkah Blessing Cards—containing the blessing to be said when lighting the Hanukkah Lights. Also the Mo-oz T'zur Ye-shu-o-si.

Children's Prayer Cards—containing prayers for little children in simple rhyme.

United Synagogue Recorder—containing special departments for women and children.

Friday Night Stories from the Talmud—charmingly told in simple English for little children.

Jewish Holiday Booklets—describing and explaining the meaning of the Holidays.

Lists of books on Jewish topics for home reading.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE

The Bible Story, Part I—a text-book of Biblical history for children between the ages of eight and ten, from Creation to the Death of Moses.

The Bible Story, Part II—continues the story from the Death of Moses to the Establishment of the Second Commonwealth.

Manual for Teaching Biblical History—presents the traditional interpretation of the salient portions of the Five Books of Moses.

Curriculum for the Jewish Religious School—providing for four distinct courses of study to correspond to the different kinds of schools at present in operation.

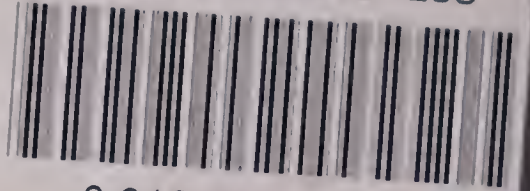
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